

House Resolution 1242

By: Representatives Purcell of the 159th, Day of the 163rd, Stephens of the 164th, Stephens of the 161st, Bryant of the 160th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 75th anniversary of the founding of Armstrong Atlantic State
2 University; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Armstrong Junior College was founded by Savannah's City Council on May 27,
4 1935; and

5 WHEREAS, through the leadership of Mayor Thomas Gamble; Savannah High School
6 English teacher, Lowry Axley; *Savannah Morning News* editor and publisher, Herschel V.
7 Jenkins; State Senator David S. Atkinson; the Savannah City Council; and a diverse host of
8 the citizenry of the City of Savannah, the college became an integral part of the City of
9 Savannah; and

10 WHEREAS, through the generosity of Lucy Camp Armstrong Moltz and Lucy Armstrong
11 Johnson, Armstrong House was acquired by the City of Savannah to house the college as a
12 memorial to George Ferguson Armstrong; and

13 WHEREAS, Armstrong Junior College, after experiencing tremendous growth, became the
14 state supported Armstrong State College and subsequently moved to the south side of
15 Savannah to expand its ability to serve the region; and

16 WHEREAS, the institution gained state university status in 1996 becoming Armstrong
17 Atlantic State University, now serving more than 7,500 students in over 100 academic
18 programs through the College of Education, College of Health Professions, College of
19 Liberal Arts, and College of Science and Technology; and

20 WHEREAS, for 75 years the university's students, faculty, and alumni and its academic
21 programs, athletics, and publications have brought state-wide, regional, and national acclaim
22 to the school, the City of Savannah, and the State of Georgia; and

23 WHEREAS, Armstrong Atlantic State University has grown from an original enrollment of
24 175 to a student body of more than 7,500, with more than 86 percent of its students from
25 across the State of Georgia, and has an impact upon the local economy of \$205 million per
26 year; and

27 WHEREAS, since its inception as a city owned junior college, Armstrong Atlantic State
28 University has been a strong partner contributing to the economic health of this state,
29 providing a wide variety of courses and degrees, and preparing graduates to meet the
30 ever-changing work force needs of business and industry in the State of Georgia.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body honor the memory of Savannah Mayor Thomas Gamble and the
33 citizens of Savannah and Chatham County whose leadership resulted in the establishment of
34 Armstrong Atlantic State University.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body recognize the 75th anniversary
36 of Armstrong Atlantic State University and extend congratulations to the individuals who
37 have left their imprint on the community through their contributions as students, faculty,
38 alumni, staff, administrators, or supporters.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
40 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the president of Armstrong
41 Atlantic State University, Linda M. Bleicken.